

210 are placed inside the first rotary switch module 12A, with the second spring 340 positioned between the first rotary switch module 12A and the first detent washer 210 such that the first detent washer 210 is biased away from the rotary switch module 12A. The first detent washer 210 preferably has a first non-circular outer perimeter 211 shaped to mate with the first rotary switch module 12A, including the male detent 20A, thereby fixing the angular positions of the first detent washer 210 and the first rotary switch module 12A with respect to each other. The first detent washer 210 has a series of small male detents 212 on its distal surface shaped to mate with the series of female detents 22A. When the stalk switch 140 is assembled, the second spring 340 biases the first detent washer 210 and the rotary switch support member 14A together, with the series of small male detents 212 and the series of female detents 22A interfacing, so as to create a counter-torque against any torque applied to the first rotary switch module 12A. The magnitude of the counter-torque is limited by the strength of the second spring 340, and by the shape of the series of small male detents 212 and the series of female detents 22A, so that when sufficient torque is applied to the first rotary switch module 12A, the second spring 340 will compress in order to allow the detents 212 and 22A to slip relative to one another, permitting the first rotary switch module 12A to rotate. When the torque applied is sufficiently reduced, the first rotary switch module 12A will come to rest at one of a finite number of angular positions relative to the rotary switch support member 14A, defined by the series of female detents 22A and the series of small male detents 212.

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